

The Two Counts of Sicily

101

weured by the firm will nf his mother
Adelaide, a
clever and ambitious woman. It was
no easy
tiir-k for a woman to hold together the
fabric of
I tower which tlu* Great Count had
carefully built
up, and maintain the skilful arid
delicate balance
between ereedw and niees which was its
foundation,
The feudal vuHiiftlti, nwoollen with the
pride of their
rithte titut full of orthodox contempt
for both
OreekH ami Moslems, were the greatest
danger to
government and to tnlernlton. The
yearn of Ade-
laide's^ rt?geitey are obwure to a
degree but it is
ekmr that nttemptH were mado by the
baront to
iti the a predominance which Roger I,
thtrm. In later years Roger II. was
r«*»todt*«! how, in hit; t»oyhood, the
barona of Sicily
itttd C^alabrin had joiueti hands in
revolt, and after
great bit wished hin mother hud driven
the, enemy
in-fore her like jK»ttiMr*8 duttt*¹ What
«uch an
tmtutv jKirtetuled is mtknown, but the
Regent fit
Jrawt held the rei«« cif authority with a
firm hand,
nnd fit lust hnndeti over to her «econd
son the
undimmi»hed uutht»rity of hi» father,
Her sticcrsK in kwpinf, thct f>it)ance of
govern-
ment wits tJue t« hw ecmfidtmce in the
(keek and
Amb flt*rm*tUj*. While Roger I, had
rt^mained to

tint i»tid it Norman ttcihlitT keeping
simple state in
Mileto <»r Tr«*iim, she tnui^ferreil the
capital fat
irt nwl then to Pitlermo. In
1105 the

***Thlt in tw.i, »» » j*ptlti«n tmm th««**
f the rrS»»»i«lit»g uf tWr i^itte; v, C
ffttntttnt ^f *#rmQ#niuki<iti»tkim**